

REMARKS

Claims 7-9 and 11-25 are pending in the application. Claims 7-9 and 11-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,687,745 to Frano. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Frano fails to anticipate claims 7-9 and 11-25. Consider claim 11, which includes “providing, as part of said graphic object, at least one function that can be performed by said client.” The Examiner cites to Frano at col. 19, lines 35-49, but it is noted that Frano at col. 19, lines 50-54 makes it clear that the survey application is not part of the droplet of Frano, but rather operates on an application server. Likewise, in the three strategies discussed at Frano col. 19 line 64 to col. 20, line 37, it is clear that a droplet presentation client 25 must be locally installed for the droplet to operate. As such, the droplets of Frano do not include at least one function that can be performed by said client, but rather access a droplet presentation client 25 that must be installed on the client in order for the droplet to function.

Likewise, claim 7 as amended includes the “method according to claim 11 wherein said at least one function provided as part of said object includes controlling an independent electronic mail application of said client to perform electronic messaging with said business contact.” While the droplet presentation client 25 can be used for electronic messaging, it is an independent of the droplet (and indeed must be installed before the droplet is operational), and it is not an electronic mail application.

Claim 12 as amended includes “wherein said interactive object is capable of controlling at least two (2) independent computer programs on a single computer.” The droplets of Frano do not control even a single independent computer program, because the droplet presentation client 25 of Frano is not independent.

Claim 16 includes “providing a persistent graphic interactive object that includes a tracking component, a communications component, and a security component on a host computer.” The Examiner cites to Frano at col. 25, lines 28-65 and col. 26, lines 14-22 as allegedly disclosing a security component, but it is unclear exactly what the security component is supposed to be. At best, it appears that these sections relate to preventing a user from establishing two instances of a droplet-enabled application, but that is not a security component under any reasonable construction of the term security component.

Claim 20 as amended includes the “method of Claim 16 wherein said tracking component and said communications component are controlled by said security component to prevent unauthorized external access to said tracking component and said communications component.” While this clarifies one exemplary function of a security component, it is not intended to limit the possible functions of a security component.

New claims 22 through 25 likewise further exemplify the differences between the pending claims and Frano, as the droplet of Frano only interfaces with a droplet presentation client 25 and not a web browsing program, web browsing application or electronic mail application. Furthermore, the droplet presentation client 25 of Frano is not a web browsing program, web browsing application or electronic mail application.

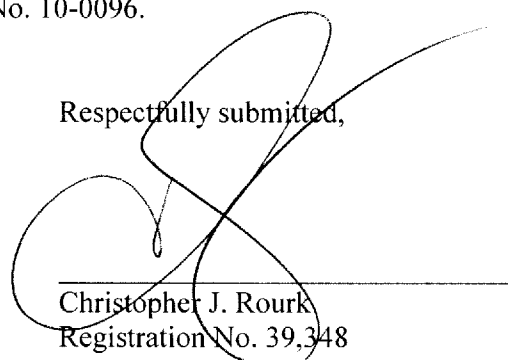
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and for various other reasons readily apparent, Applicants submit that all of the claims now present are allowable, and withdrawal of the rejection and a Notice of Allowance are courteously solicited.

If any impediment to the allowance of the claims remains after consideration of this amendment, a telephone interview with the Examiner is hereby requested by the undersigned at (214) 953-5990 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

No fee is believed due with this Response. If any applicable fee or refund has been overlooked, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or credit any refund to Deposit Account No. 10-0096.

Respectfully submitted,



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